

# BOOK REVIEWS



We have several more DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM publications we want to call to your attention:

- **DESERT VICTORY: THE WAR FOR KUWAIT.** By Norman Friedman (Naval Institute Press, 1991. 440 Pages. \$24.95). The author is a defense analyst with considerable knowledge of the weapons of war. It is hard to describe his book — it has 250 pages of narrative, 105 pages of technical information grouped into eight appendixes, and 58 pages of discursive notes, but does not have any documentation or an index. The discursive notes, in fact, contain almost as much useful information about the course of events as does the narrative.

The book is not strictly a history of the campaign. The author seems to have four missions in mind — stressing the important role played by the U.S. Navy; attacking the U.S. Air Force's overall concept of air operations; taking issue with the present U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff organization; and arguing that the United States should adopt a strong maritime strategy.

Friedman is far more at home with the Navy's organization and operational employment than with the Army's — for example, the 1st Cavalry Division is an armor, not an armored cavalry, division, and the 101st Airborne Division is not an airborne division but an air assault division.

Still, the Infantryman will find the book worth reading, particularly the notes, but he must keep in mind that it was prepared just as the fighting ended. Events since then call for some modification of the author's overall presentation.

- **DESERT STORM.** From the Editors of *Military History* magazine (Empire Press, 602 S. King Street, Suite 300, Leesburg, VA 22075, 1991. 176 Pages. \$34.95). Thirteen authors and

essayists join the editor of *Military History* magazine to give us their views of the campaign and the major events surrounding it. The editor, working with his production people, has then added a number of striking photographs and other graphics. The overall impression is good.

But the various narratives read more like extended magazine articles, with numerous quotations from actual participants. In general, they are easy to read, but a reader may occasionally want to know more about a particular event.

The book contains several irritating errors: The entire 2d Armored Division did not serve in DESERT STORM; there was no U.S. VI Corps; the 101st Airborne Division did not use 300 helicopters in mid-January 1991 to insert Special Forces units into Iraq; there is no such unit as the 2d Battalion, 82d Airborne Division; and it was the 24th Infantry Division that took part, not the 24th Mechanized Infantry Brigade.

Since this book contains no documentation, it is difficult to call it a history of the war. It is a generally pleasing book to have around, but no more.

- **THE GULF WAR READER: HISTORY, DOCUMENTS, OPINIONS.** Edited by Micah L. Sifry and Christopher Cerf (A Times Book. Random House, 1991. 526 Pages. \$15.00, Softbound). This is indeed a collection of documents (only a few), official statements (not many), and extracts from magazine and newspaper articles (many, many). Interestingly enough, none of the latter were taken from military journals or newspapers.

There is little real history here, but there are a lot of opinions, most of them unfavorable toward the war, the president, and our Middle East policies over

the years. There is also a short piece, taken from *The Village Voice*, on the AIDS crisis. It almost seems the editors are daring us to find it (the piece is just past the center of the book) as a way of determining whether we have actually gone through the entire book. It serves no other purpose.

- **THE DESERT JAYHAWK: OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/STORM** (Produced by the U.S. VII Corps Public Affairs Office, 1991. 48 Pages, Softbound). This is a special edition of the corps' usual JAYHAWK publication. In words, pictures (many in full color), and maps, it offers a brief overview of the corps' activities from its deployment from Germany to the end of the fighting and then gives a short description of the roles each of the corps' major elements played, plus a list of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve units that served with the corps during Operation DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM. The corps PAO is to be congratulated on a job well done.

In the same vein, we have received several audio cassettes you should find to be of considerable interest:

- **DESERT WARRIORS: THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO WON THE GULF WAR.** By the Staff of *USA Today*, and read by Laurence Jolidon, et.al. (Simon and Schuster, 1991. 60 minutes. \$9.95). This is an audio version of the paperback recently published by Pocket Books.

- **SCHWARZKOPF: HOW WE WON THE WAR.** Narrated by Bob Cain (Simon and Schuster, 1991. 50 minutes. \$9.95). This one features substantial excerpts from the general's speeches, press conferences, and comments after he returned home.

- **WINNING THE WAR, STRIVING FOR PEACE** (Produced by the Hughes Corporate Communications office, 1991). This well-done cassette

concentrates on the 55 corporate systems used by the armed forces during the war for Kuwait.

• **EAGLES OVER THE GULF, DESERT STORM: THE PILOTS' STORIES** (Produced by Cassette Productions Unlimited, 1991. 130 minutes. \$11.95). This cassette is a compilation of 50 interviews with Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy aircrews, coupled with combat cockpit recordings. It also contains excerpts from President Bush's speeches during the war.

Finally, we would call your attention to a most valuable publication we have just received:

• **JANE'S MILITARY TRAINING SYSTEMS, 1991-92.** Fourth Edition. Edited by Terry J. Gander (Jane's, 1991. 389 Pages. \$210.00, Softbound). Although the editor believes "the military training and simulation industry is in for a hard time over the next few years," he also believes "all is not doom and gloom." He feels that Japan is now prepared to enter the market, something that "may turn out to be a very significant event" in this particular market place.

He divides his publication into five major parts — land based systems, naval systems, aviation/avionics systems, computer-generated image and visual display systems, and aerial target drones and aerial targets. To this he adds his foreword, a list of abbreviations, and an addendum and an index. All infantry trainers will find this book of great value.

Now here are a number of our longer reviews:

**HAZARDOUS DUTY: AN AMERICAN SOLDIER IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.** By Major General John K. Singlaub with Malcolm McConnell (A Summit Book. Simon and Schuster, 1991. 574 Pages. \$24.95). Reviewed by Major Harold E. Raugh, Jr., United States Army.

The recent Iran-Contra affair, in which he figured prominently and felt that he was grossly slandered by the "consummate liar" Oliver North, apparently prompted General Singlaub to write this autobiography. His is a story that deserved to be told.

Although perhaps better known for his "firing" by President Carter in 1977 when he allegedly opposed the administration's plan to withdraw troops from Korea (shown to have been a flagrant manipulation of the facts), Singlaub was a combat infantryman whose adventure-filled career spanned almost four decades.

Commissioned through the Army ROTC program in 1943, he parachuted behind enemy lines into occupied France in 1944, and jumped into a Japanese-held prisoner-of-war camp the following year. Singlaub was further involved in covert operations and unconventional warfare activities during the Chinese Civil War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

A constant thread woven through the tapestry of his life is Singlaub's staunch resolve to combat fascism and communism wherever it threatens democracy and liberty. Although his book was written before the recent coup attempt in the Soviet Union, Singlaub concludes by admonishing his readers not to be naive and suggests that the Soviet Union's more recent policies are only a subterfuge for the restructuring of its economy, after which the Soviets will continue their inexorable attempt to dominate the world. Even though this theme may prove to be outdated, the book is well worth reading.

**INSURGENCY AND TERRORISM: INSIDE MODERN REVOLUTIONARY WARFARE.** By Bard E. O'Neill (Brassey's (U.S.), 1990. 170 Pages. \$19.00). Reviewed by Colonel James B. Motley, United States Army Retired.

It is apparent, as the last decade of this century continues to unfold, that insurgency will persist as a type of low intensity conflict in the international system. The author, professor of international affairs at the National War College, underscores this premise by noting "there are no signs that the problems of national cohesion and economic development that give rise to these conflicts will be solved."

This book, set in nine chapters, builds

and improves on a framework of analysis that the author introduced in a previous book. Thus, it can serve as a primer for those individuals who may be given the task of analyzing and comparing insurgencies; at the same time, those who have focused their attention on conventional and strategic warfare will find it a valuable reference. Chapter endnotes serve as an excellent guide for those who seek further reading on the subject.

The book's value lies in the author's ability to identify the complexity of insurgencies and to describe the interplay of many factors, as well as to explain the need for an organized way of dealing with them. A career military man will find it worthwhile to spend some time reading and studying this book.

**FIREFIGHT AT YECHON: COURAGE AND RACISM IN THE KOREAN WAR.** By Charles M. Bussey (Brassey's (U.S.), 1991. 304 Pages. \$21.95). Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Donald C. Snedeker, United States Army.

The author, a retired lieutenant colonel, served in the Army for 24 years, initially as an Army Air Force pilot (and a member of the famous "Tuskegee Airmen") during World War II, and later as a combat engineer company commander during the Korean War.

A reader doesn't have to read many pages of this book to know that the author is a proud but bitter man. By the end of the book, however, the reasons for both his pride and his bitterness are obvious.

Other reviewers have complained that the author "ruined a perfectly good war story" with his bitterness. They seem to feel that his vitriolic attacks on the racism that was rampant in the Army, the news media, and U.S. society during the mid-20th century detract from the events the author describes so graphically.

But for Colonel Bussey, there is no separating the two. He wants the reader to see the events as they happened, one within the context of the other. He is not concerned with telling just another

war story. As it is, his story is real life, life as it was for the black soldier in the Jim Crow army and in the U.S. during World War II and the Korean War. The result is an unvarnished, blatantly opinionated version of the events narrated in this book — without apology from the author. It is also strongly patriotic, for the author's love of his country, despite its obvious faults, shines through.

Unfortunately, his bitterness does cause his narrative to become excessive and even oppressive at times. He sometimes devolves into the same "us-versus-them" attitude that was at the heart of the system he criticizes, and he seems to become consumed with his own hatred, literally ranting and raging. But to his credit — and this is what makes the book worth reading — the author does not try to disguise his story, nor does he claim it to be something it was not. It is his story of a unit action during the Korean War, complete with an emotional cast of characters and events.

In this sense, the story is very personal. But in a broader sense, it represents the untold story of the generation of African-American soldiers who fought and died to defend a system that sought to segregate them. In this context, the valor and dedication of Charles Bussey and the men of the 77th Engineer Combat Company is even more incredible.

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**TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE: A SOVIET VIEW.** Soviet Military Thought Number 23. By R. G. Simonyan and S. V. Grishin (Moscow, 1980. USGPO S/N 008-070-00643-0. 199 Pages. \$6.00, Softbound). Reviewed by Major M. R. Jacobson, United States Army Reserve.

This is another in the series of Soviet books in translation published under the auspices of the United States Air Force. As such, it is an excellent guide to all aspects of Soviet reconnaissance methods; it contains discussions of the roles, requirements, fundamentals, objectives, and conduct of Soviet reconnaissance. It takes a comprehensive

look at the various types of Soviet reconnaissance, including ground, aerial, electronic, and artillery.

The book has a detailed chapter on patrolling, raids, and the taking of prisoners. (The Soviets place great emphasis on the taking of prisoners, whom they refer to as "tongues.") The book also explains the differences between combat reconnaissance patrols and independent reconnaissance patrols. (In fact, information on the independent reconnaissance patrol has only recently been rediscovered by the threat community.) Finally, it contains information on the Soviet intelligence process, which includes the assembling, processing, and briefing of intelligence information.

Although the Soviet threat has declined, this is an excellent book for training personnel and units on how to plan and conduct reconnaissance. It contains good reference material for any unit, U.S. or otherwise. It is particularly recommended to anyone involved in planning or executing reconnaissance, counter-reconnaissance, or threat analysis.

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**THE DYNAMICS OF DEFEAT: THE VIETNAM WAR IN HAU NGHIA PROVINCE.** By Eric M. Bergerud (Westview Press, 1990. 383 Pages. \$29.95). Reviewed by Colonel David R. Kiernan, United States Army.

The more things change, the more they remain the same. And so it was with the U.S. pacification program in Vietnam. Using Hau Nghia province as the paradigm for the ill-fated Civil Operations and Revolutionary (Rural) Development Support (CORDS) program, the author has done a superb job in tracing the roots of communist insurgency in Southeast Asia from 1954 to the last battles of 1973. His analysis is credible as he draws heavily upon the data contained in the U.S. advisors' Hamlet Evaluation System (HES) reports as well as the territorial forces assessment.

The author looks at Hau Nghia province as a microcosm for the other 44 South Vietnamese provinces. He therefore describes the pacification program in the province through certain

personalities that many readers will recognize at once. It seemed that all paths eventually led to this tiny province as General Creighton Abrams, John Paul Vann, and young William Colby each made futile efforts to stabilize the province. Throughout the war, Hau Nghia was consistently rated at the bottom of the provincial list in the effectiveness of its local security measures against the menacing Viet Cong.

The author's vivid description of life in Hau Nghia province is taken from the after action reports submitted by the U.S. military advisors and from his interviews with numerous individuals who served with other government agencies during these two decades.

The CORDS web of confusion was woven by Department of Defense, Department of State, Central Intelligence Agency, and host nation government officials. Found here are the petty personality clashes, agency turf battles, and the ultimate but sad end state — defeat.

The lesson for today's reader is that from the labyrinth of the bureaucracy that existed in that war, the United States may find a path that leads to more success in its Third World efforts today. Perhaps one can even find the seeds of a fresh approach to the foreign policy issues for our country in the 21st century.

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**EMPEROR OF THE CENTURIES, VOLUME IV, NAPOLEON: MAN AND MEANING.** By Abbott William Sherower (Napoleonic Heritage Books, 1991. 461 Pages. \$52.50). Reviewed by Colonel John C. Spence III, United States Army Reserve.

This is the fourth volume in an impressive in-depth study of Napoleon. It deals with Napoleon's early career as a second lieutenant of artillery, a period during which he developed his immense intellect.

Napoleon was not only a commander; he was an avid student of the science of war as well as a student of the cultural basis of Western civilization. The author aptly points out that Napoleon had a restless, curious mind. He read voluminously and studied in detail the

thoughts, writings, and works of countless persons. It was his unlimited intellectual curiosity that contributed to his place in history.

What is more impressive about Napoleon during this period was the extent of his self-education and study. Equally impressive is the manner in which he assimilated the vast amount of erudition that formed the intellectual basis of his military career.

The book's style is incisive and analytical. The author often writes in the present tense as if his subject, Napoleon, stood physically before him. The book is certainly a valuable source of information for the professional student of the napoleonic era, because Napoleon demonstrated that an officer's education need not end with formal training.

**OFFENSE AND DEFENSE IN ISRAELI MILITARY DOCTRINE.** By Ariel Levite (Westview Press, 1990. 194 Pages. \$18.00). Reviewed by Lieutenant Colonel Cole C. Kingseed, United States Army.

In recent years there has been a veritable avalanche of monographs that focus on the dimensions of national security policy. This one is a recent effort by Israel's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies to explore the subject. It attempts to refine the understanding of military doctrine, which the author defines as the authoritative thinking that guides the design of force structure and the conduct of operations.

An offensive orientation that advocates the earliest possible transfer of war to an enemy's territory has traditionally characterized all Israeli military doctrine. The author, a senior research associate at the Center, believes that this orientation is remarkable for two reasons: Israel is committed strategically to a defensive posture that supports the status quo in the continuing Arab-Israeli conflict, and the doctrine has endured largely intact since the founding of the Israeli state. Over the decades, this "cult of the offensive" has so dominated Israeli military thinking that it has led to a gradual erosion of the

army's defensive skills, as evident in the initial defeat it suffered in the 1973 war with Egypt.

The author concludes that to compensate for this "doctrinal stagnation" Israel must reexamine its security conception, rethink its grand strategy, and revitalize its military doctrine. Specifically, he feels that Israel should adopt a more balanced doctrine that includes the addition of a strong defensive component and a corresponding indoctrination of its military and political leaders.

In summary, this book presents a number of provocative insights into the need for a country's leaders to constantly reassess their military doctrine in light of changing international and domestic conditions. Military theorists and analysts will certainly see similarities with our own country's evolving national military strategy. It is recommended for those who are interested in the development, application, and evolution of military doctrine.

## RECENT AND RECOMMENDED

**DEVELOPMENT DIPLOMACY: U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA.** By Joyce R. Starr. Policy Papers Number 12. The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 1989. 46 Pages. Softbound.

**HEARTBREAK RIDGE: KOREA, 1951.** By Arned L. Hinshaw. Praeger, 1989. 172 Pages. \$19.95.

**THE SIGINT SECRETS: THE SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE WAR, 1900 TO TODAY.** By Nigel West. William Morrow, 1988. 347 Pages. \$19.95.

**HITLER'S HERALDS: THE STORY OF THE FREIKORPS.** By Nigel H. Jones. David and Charles, 1989. 284 Pages. \$29.95.

**THE KILLING OF SS OBERGRUPPEN-FUHRER REINHARD HEYDRICH.** By Callum MacDonald. The Free Press, 1989. 239 Pages. \$19.95.

**AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO MODERN BOMBERS.** Edited by Bill Gunston. Prentice Hall Press, 1988. 118 Pages. \$10.95.

**COMBAT ARMS: MODERN FIGHTERS.** Edited by Ray Bonds. Prentice Hall Press, 1988. 78 Pages. \$14.95.

**COMBAT ARMS: MODERN CARRIERS.** Edited by Ray Bonds. Prentice Hall Press, 1988. 78 Pages. \$14.95.

**RICHARD LIONHEART: THE CRUSADER KING.** By John Matthews, illustrations by James Field. Sterling, 1988. 48 Pages. \$7.95, Softbound.

**WARRIORS OF ARTHUR.** By John Matthews and John Stewart, illustrations by Richard Hook. Sterling, 1987. 192 Pages. \$24.95.

**CHARLEMAGNE: FOUNDER OF THE**

**HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE.** By Bob Stewart, illustrations by James Field. Sterling, 1988. 48 Pages. \$7.95, Softbound.

**EL CID: CHAMPION OF SPAIN.** By John Matthews, illustrations by James Field. Sterling, 1988. 48 Pages. \$7.95, Softbound.

**FIONN MAC CUMHAIL: CHAMPION OF IRELAND.** By John Matthews, illustrations by James Field. Sterling, 1988. 48 Pages. \$7.95, Softbound.

**MACBETH: SCOTLAND'S WARRIOR KING.** By Bob Stewart, illustrations by James Field. Sterling, 1988. 48 Pages. \$7.95.

**CUCHULAINN: HOUND OF ULSTER.** By Bob Stewart, illustrations by James Field. Sterling, 1988. 48 Pages. \$7.95, Softbound.

**BOADICEA: WARRIOR QUEEN OF THE CELTS.** By John Matthews, illustrations by James Field. Sterling, 1988. 48 Pages. \$7.95.

**LESSONS LEARNED: THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR.** By Stephen C. Pelletiere and Douglas V. Johnson II. Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College, 1991. USGPO S/N 008-020-01238-6. 119 Pages. \$4.00, Softbound.

**"BLACK '41": THE WEST POINT CLASS OF 1941 AND THE AMERICAN TRIUMPH IN WORLD WAR II.** By Bill Yenne. John Wiley, 1991. 388 Pages. \$24.95.

**GOING OVER THE TOP WITH MORALE: A STUDY OF MEN AND COURAGE.** By John Baynes. Avery Publishing Group. 286 Pages. \$10.95.

**OLD BATTLES AND NEW DEFENCES.** By Correlli Barnett, et.al. Brassey's (UK), 1986. 143 Pages. \$17.00.

**FLYING MACARTHUR TO VICTORY.** By Weldon E. Rhoades. Texas A&M University Press, 1987. 563 Pages. \$19.95.

**THE MILITARY COMMITTEE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE: A STUDY OF STRUCTURE AND STRATEGY.** By Douglas L. Bland. Praeger, 1990. 288 Pages. \$47.95.

**COMBAT MEDIC-VIETNAM.** By Craig Roberts. Pocket Books, 1991. 232 Pages. \$4.95, Softbound.

**GREAT DECISIONS, 1991.** By Nancy L. Hoepfl, Editor-in-Chief. Foreign Policy Association (729 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019), 1991. 96 Pages. \$10.00, Softbound.

**THE GREEN BERETS IN VIETNAM, 1961-71.** By Colonel Francis J. Kelly. An AUSA Book. Originally published in 1973 as a volume in the U.S. Army's Vietnam Studies Series. Brassey's (U.S.), 1991. 227 Pages. \$12.95, Softbound.

**THE RANDLORDS.** By Geoffrey Wheatcroft. Atheneum, 1986. 314 Pages. \$17.95.

**BARONS OF THE SKY: FROM EARLY FLIGHT TO STRATEGIC WARFARE: THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN AEROSPACE INDUSTRY.** By Wayne Biddle. Simon & Schuster, 1991. 366 Pages. \$22.95.

**BLANK CHECK: THE PENTAGON'S BLACK BUDGET.** By Tim Weiner. Warner Books, 1990. 272 Pages. \$21.95.

**INSIDE HITLER'S HEADQUARTERS, 1939-45.** By Walter Warlimont. Translated from the German by R.H. Barry. A Reprint. Presidio Press, 1990. 658 Pages. \$35.00.

**THE IOWA CLASS BATTLESHIPS: IOWA, NEW JERSEY, MISSOURI, & WISCONSIN.** By Malcolm Muir. Sterling, 1991. 160 Pages. \$14.95, Softbound.